

March 15, 1984

LB 682

PRESIDENT: The motion is to adopt the E & R amendments. All those in favor vote aye...say aye. Opposed no. The motion carried. The amendments are adopted. The Chair would interrupt to announce...I have had this sitting here for a little while. Senator Morehead has guests under the north balcony. They are Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Headley of Beatrice. We welcome you to the Legislature this morning. Proceed, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Landis would move to amend his bill. The Landis amendment is on page 1433 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, this amendment was brought to me by a county attorney out west in Senator Scofield's district, at least a notion of it. And that is when a public official, an elected official hires their spouse or their child as part of the office it proves to be a politically controversial and perhaps an emotionally hot issue. And it does not fall within the new definition of the conflict of interest. So this language says, if you hire your spouse, you will record that fact. You will disclose that fact in the same way that you would disclose if you were doing business with your spouse's company. I think the notion is to make sure that it is clear that these things are part of the public record. In the event someone has been working in that office and then their spouse or parent is elected to the position over them, that is not a disclosable interest because clearly the person was hired in the first place without regard to who they were or what family member they were. I would move the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp, do you want to speak on this amendment?

SENATOR DECAMP: Just to get a clarification. So if it were a wife working for a Senator, you would disclose it?